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JOHN CULBERSON
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1728 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4307
202.225.2571
FAX 202.225.4381

DISTRICT OFFICE:
10000 MEMORIAL DRIVE, SUITE 620
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024-3490
713.682.8828
FAX: 713.680.8070

INTERNET:
WWW.CULBERSON.HOUSE.GOV

March 18, 2005

The Honorable James T. Walsh
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Quality of Life
H-143, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515-6022

Dear Chairman Walsh,

I am writing to request your support for \$15 million from the Army Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation account (line 31, PE 0603-00-2A) for the Alliance for NanoHealth in Houston, Texas.

This project is my highest priority appropriations request for FY2006. I believe this collaboration between University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Rice University, MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Houston, and Baylor College of Medicine, will develop into the world's leading center for nanobiology and nanomedicine. This integrated program will support projects involving medical imaging, diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, and implants using nanotechnology.

The money will be used for competitive interdisciplinary research projects that will ultimately provide the tools to help answer questions on debilitating diseases such as cancer and heart disease. These institutions have already begun their research, developing gold-coated nanospheres to attack cancer cells, investigating the perfect form of carbon for controlled release of contrast agents for MRI and CT scans, and using nanomaterials to deliver chemotherapeutic drugs. Should this request be filled, the funding will be leveraged by state and private contributions. Again, this is my highest appropriations priority, my only request from your subcommittee and I respectfully ask for your support in fulfilling it.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of John Culberson in dark ink.

John Culberson
Member of Congress

*Jim -
I hope you
can help by
fully funding this
promising and unique
research -
Thank you*